REMARKS

Claims 46-89 are pending in the application. As the result of a restriction requirement, claims 75 and 77-87 are withdrawn from consideration. The Office states that claims 49-58, 60-62, 66-69, 71-73, and 75-89 are also withdrawn from consideration because they do not read on the elected invention and/or any of the two species being examined. Claims 59 and 74 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 46-48, 59, 63, 65, 70, and 74 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Stürzebecher et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,841,701 ("Stürzebecher et al.").

Amendments

Claim 46 has been amended to recite, in part, the limitations of claims 48, 51, and 63 for P2. Claim 48 has been amended to delete "P2." Claim 74 has been amended to delete the phrase "in particular in intraarterial, intravenous, intramuscular or subcutaneous form." New claims 90 and 91, in part, correspond to claims 74 and 48. No new matter has been added. For the record, the present amendments have been made to advance prosecution. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any cancelled subject matter in this or a continuing application.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 59 and 74 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claim 59 recites:

> The method as claimed in claim 46, wherein a coupling to a synthetic surface being effected by way of P2, characterized in that the substituent at P4 is H, a halogen, an amino group, a hydroxyl group or a linear or branched alkyl group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

The Office states that the meaning of the phrase "wherein a coupling to a synthetic surface being effected by way of P2" is unclear. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Applicants' specification at, for example, page 8, line 14, makes clear that "[a] linker group can additionally be coupled to P4 or P2." The specification also states:

> A linker group...is defined as being a chemical structure which exhibits at least one functional group for covalent coupling to an acylated 4-amidino- or 4-guanidinobenzylamine by way of P4 or P2 and, in addition, exhibits either at least one second functional group for simultaneous covalent coupling to a synthetic surface or for the simultaneous coupling of a second molecule of the acylated 4-amidino- or 4-guanidinobenzylamine and/or exhibits an oligo- or polyalkylene glycol group which is able to couple noncovalently to the synthetic surface by interacting with it (page 8, lines 20-32; emphasis added by Applicants).

Accordingly, in view of this passage, P2 includes a linker group, and this linker group includes a functional group that can couple covalently or non-covalently to a synthetic surface. Claim 59 therefore satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and this ground for rejection should be withdrawn.

The Office also asserts that the phrase "in particular" renders claim 74 indefinite. The phrase "in particular in intraarterial, intravenous, intramuscular or subcutaneous form" has been deleted from claim 74. New dependent claim 90, which recites the deleted subject matter of claim 74, has been introduced. This ground for rejection may also be withdrawn

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 46-48, 59, 63, 65, 70, and 74 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Stürzebecher et al.

Claim 46 has been amended. In view of this amendment and for the following reason, this rejection should be withdrawn.

The Office states that the recitation in claim 46 of inhibiting plasma kallikrein, factor XIa, and/or factor XIIa has not been given patentable weight because it occurs in the preamble. Accordingly, claim 46 has been amended to recite that the "compound of formula I inhibits plasma kallikrein, factor XIa, and/or factor XIIa."

Turning to the compounds of Stürzebecher et al., the fragments –N-X(R_1)–C(=O)N– and R_4 of these compounds correspond respectively to P2 and P4 of instant formula I. The compounds described in Example 2 of Stürzebecher et al. are compounds where X-R_1 is CH_2 (i.e., glycine) or $CHCH_3$ (i.e., alanine) when P4 is unsubstituted $C_6H_5CH_2SO_2$ (i.e., Bz-SO_2). Claim 46, as amended, recites that P2 is:

> P2 is a monosubstituted or polysubstituted natural or unnatural α-amino acid residue or α-imino acid residue in the L configuration, wherein
> (a) the substituent at substituted P2 is a substituted or unsubstituted, branched or linear aralkyl radical having 1-10 C atoms, or
> (b) P2 is selected from Pro, Asp, Glu, Gln, hGlu, Dap, Dap(Z), Lys, Lys(Z), Arg, Thr, Thr(Bzl), Ser(Bzl), hSer(Bzl), Phe or hPhe;...and
> wherein a linker group can additionally be coupled to P4 or P2, and when said linker is coupled to P4, P2 is glycine, alanine, proline, homoproline or azetidinecarboxylic acid....

As amended, the claims do not encompass the use of compounds where P2 is glycine or alanine and P4 is Bz-SO_2, and therefore Stürzebecher et al. cannot anticipate these claims. This ground for rejection should be withdrawn, and Applicants respectfully request that claims 49-58, 60-62, 66-69, 71-73, and 75-89 be examined in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 803.02.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Enclosed is a Petition to extend the period for replying to the Office Action for two months, to and including April 17, 2009.

If there are any additional charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4/17/2009

James De Camp
Reg. No. 43,580

Karen L. Elbing, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 35,238

Clark & Elbing LLP
101 Federal Street
Boston, MA 02110
Telephone: 617-428-0200
Facsimile: 617-428-7045